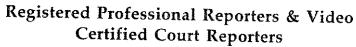
TVA HEARING
TRANSMISSION ACCESS
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2006
HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY

Reported by: Karina L. Owen, RPR/CSR





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1	APPEARANCES:
2	
3	TVA BOARD MEMBERS:
4	Bill Sansom, Chairman Bill Baxter
5	Denny Bottorff Don DePriest
6	Mike Duncan Skila Harris
7	Howard Thrailkill Susan Williams
8	
9	PANEL #1 - NOTICED DISTRIBUTORS
10	Jim Allison - GM, Duck River Electric Membership Corp., Tennessee
11	John Humphries - Superintendent, Princeton Electric Plant Board, Kentucky
12	Gerald Hayes - President/CEO, Warren Rural Electric Cooperative Corp., Kentucky
13 14	Ray McLennan - Board Chairman, Paducah Power System, Kentucky
15	PANEL #2 - NON-NOTICED DISTRIBUTORS
16	Fred Hayslett - GM, Columbus Light & Water Department, Mississippi
17	Harold DePriest - President/CEO, EPB (Chattanooga,) Tennessee
18	George Kitchens - GM, Joe Wheeler Electric Membership Corp., Alabama
19	Eston Glover - Manager, Pennyrile Rural Electric Cooperative Corp., Kentucky
20	
21	PANEL # 3 - OTHER
22	Jack Simmons - President/CEO, Tennessee Valley Public Power Association
23	Ed Bredniak, President, CMCC, Calvert City, Kentucky Roy Palk - President, East Kentucky Power Cooperative
24	Mark David Goss - Chairman, Kentucky Public Service Commission
) 5	

1	TVA HEARING MAY 18, 2006
2	HOPKINSVILLE, KY 10:00 A.M.
3	
4	MR. KILGORE: Good morning to everyone.
5	Welcome to the first hearing by the TVA board of
6	directors. I'm Tom Kilgore, the president and acting
7	chief executive officer of TVA. The subject of this
8	hearing is transmission access, and we appreciate
9	everyone being here today to learn more about this
10	important issue.
11	I would like to thank all of those who
12	helped make this event possible. Benjamin Franklin
13	once said, Who is wise? And then he answered his own
14	question by saying, The person that learns from
15	everyone, so that's what we're here today to do is to
16	learn from a variety of views.
17	The subject is of great importance to
18	everyone here, because we all depend on reliable
19	electric power, and because transmission access is so
20	important, this newly expanded board has chosen to have
21	a first of a kind hearing here in Kentucky on this
22	subject.
23	Our goal is to provide a forum for our
24	customers and other interested parties to discuss their

opinions and concerns publicly and directly with the

TVA board. Let me repeat that. The goal for today is to provide a forum for our customers and other interested parties to discuss their opinions and concerns publicly and directly with the TVA board.

We're modeling this session loosely on the format used for congressional hearings with the panels of speakers representing a broad range of views. Today's session will, we anticipate, run from now until about 1:00. We'll have a break after the second panel. The panels will last about 50 minutes a piece. We'll go from panel one directly to panel two, and when the panel one is finished, I'll come back and introduce panel two.

So let's welcome our first group of panelists, who are already seated. The panel is composed of four of TVA's 158 distributor customers. Each one of these four have given TVA notice. I'll introduce them briefly and then when they start their remarks, they'll give their name again.

First, Jim Allison, the general manager of Duck River Electric Membership Corporation. Second, Gerald Hayes, president and CEO of Warren Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation here in Kentucky.

Third, John Humphries, who leads the Princeton Electric Plant Board here in Kentucky. Ray McLennan, board

chairman of Paducah Power Systems, also here in Kentucky.

Gentlemen, we appreciate you being here, and after our chairman makes a few welcoming remarks, I would like you to reintroduce yourself briefly, and then begin your remarks. After -- I'll give you a few ground rules. We're asking everybody to limit their comments to about five minutes, and then that will give the board time, when all four of you are finished, to ask you questions, and basically for there to be an interchange between the board and the panel. So when you've got about two minutes left, the -- I think it's the green light will come on, and then when you're out of time, the red light will come on. We're not going to use a hook, but you might worry about whether or not your chair will fall out from under you.

No. Seriously, we're just giving you that so everybody can kind of stay on key, and so with that, Mr. Chairman, I'll turn the podium to you.

MR. SANSOM: When your time is up, the power goes off. I want to welcome all of you and the panelists for being here. We're -- this is a new board. As you all know, we're interested in your -- what's going on, and we -- obviously, when we were in Washington for our confirmation hearings, we heard a

lot about this issue from the senators there and their
staffs, and so we thought it was important to come here
and listen to what y'all had to say to us.

We're new, we just met most of you, and
we hope to continue this dialogue and solve these
problems, so thanks for being here, and an habite of

we're new, we just met most of you, and we hope to continue this dialogue and solve these problems, so thanks for being here, and on behalf of the board, we welcome you, and welcome your comments, and we'll start with you.

MR. ALLISON: If it's all right with you, Mr. Chairman, we've decided to start with Gerald, if that's okay.

MR. SANSOM: Okay. That's all right.

MR. HAYES: Mr. Chairman, members of the TVA board, special guests, good morning and welcome to Kentucky. I am Gerald Hayes president and CEO of Warren Rural Electric Cooperative in Bowling Green, Kentucky. During the past six years as president, my greatest endeavor in serving our membership has been to provide the highest quality electricity at the lowest possible cost.

Shortly after I assumed the role of president, Warren identified the long-term power supply as a major strategic issue facing our cooperative because of rate disparity between Warren and other utilities in Kentucky who purchased power from various

other suppliers.

Warren undertook an extensive study and evaluation of wholesale power options. When we completed our four-year search and evaluation process, staying with TVA was one of our top three options that we had that was available to us.

Warren determined that the preferred plan was to become a member of East Kentucky Power Cooperative. It was a very difficult decision to leave TVA after 62 years. However, our board and management team determined it was in the best interests of Warren's members to become a member of East Kentucky. Warren signed a 33-year contract with East Kentucky in May of 2004.

As a member of East Kentucky, Warren will build equity through investment in the generation and transmission assets that will serve us. We will also have a voice in the decisions that will affect our future. As part of the East Kentucky Power and Supply Plan, East Kentucky and Warren evaluated two options for transmission service.

First, was that East Kentucky would pay TVA to provide transmission service to the southern portion of Warren service area where over 80 percent of our load is located. That ceased to be an option when

TVA would not agree to provide transmission service to enable East Kentucky power to serve Warren.

Second, was for East Kentucky to serve Warren through new and existing East Kentucky transmission lines along with reliability interconnections to the existing TVA transmission system. This option offers a more economical choice for transmission service along with increased reliability for the whole region.

In addition to the benefits described above, the plan addresses the need for improvements to the area of bulk transmission system, which includes part of TVA's transmission system and East Kentucky's need for the reliability interconnections. The plan also integrates Warren's need to upgrade several miles of older transmission lines within our service area.

East Kentucky applied to the Kentucky
Public Service Commission for a certificate of public
convenience and necessity to construct the transmission
lines needed to deliver power to Warren. In October of
2005, the commission approved East Kentucky's proposal
to build the new transmission lines called for in our
plan, and we are moving forward aggressively with
implementation.

After TVA refused to agree to an

interconnection agreement, East Kentucky applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for TVA to interconnect with EKP for reliability. TVA currently has reliability interconnection agreements with 13 other generating and transmission entities. TVA also has interconnections in place with East Kentucky at six locations. East Kentucky simply asked that three additional reliability interconnections be added to Warren's service area.

interconnections, but TVA has requested a rehearing for the FERC order as a possible prelude to an extended court appeal and battle. This will only cause further delays, uncertainty, and expense for Warren and its membership. Both East Kentucky and Warren have invested a tremendous amount of time and resources into the execution of this plan. Construction of the new transmission lines by East Kentucky, coupled with reliability interconnections agreements with TVA, will provide south central Kentucky with enhanced reliability at the most economical cost. Your decision can help this plan move forward quickly.

Assuming that the TVA transmission access waiver under the TVPPA nonlegislative solution means that East Kentucky will receive interconnections

as directed by FERC without further objection or delays ] from TVA, Warren supports the TVPPA nonlegislative 2 solution. We request that the board not only give 3 permission, but also direct the CEO and the legal staff 4 to implement the solutions as presented in a timely 5 manner. Thank you very much for your time. 6 MR. SANSOM: Thank you, Gerald. 8 you're next. 9 MR. HUMPHRIES: Yes. Good morning. I'm John Humphries, the general manager of the 10 Princeton Electric Plant Board in Princeton, Kentucky. 11 I appreciate the invitation to speak at this hearing of 12 the TVA board to provide the perspective of the 13 Princeton Electric Plant Board serving Princeton, 14 Kentucky, a community of approximately 7,500 residents. 15 16 We urgently request the TVA board to authorize and direct Tom Kilgore to enter into 17 18 contracts with power distributors, to implement the plan negotiated and developed by the Tennessee Valley 19 Public Power Association and TVA senior management, 20 with participation of the noticing distributors. 21 22 We respectfully request that the contracts be finalized and executed within 60 days. 23 Princeton formed its public power entity in 1957 and 24 took power from TVA via Kentucky utilities transmission

facilities for five years starting in 1961.

TVA started serving Princeton Electric

Plant Board's load using its own lines in the sixth

year of operation. We now serve about 4,000

residential, commercial, and industrial customers.

Today there are four electric providers inside the city

limits of the small town of Princeton.

Princeton Electric Plant Board and TVA entered into an all requirements agreement amendment in 1997. The contract provided that after October 2002, we would have the option of terminating the contract upon five years notice to TVA. Accordingly, when a thorough study of Princeton's long-term power supply revealed that there were less expensive sources of reliable power available to Princeton, we exercised our option to terminate the TVA contract, with the expectation that our interconnection with TVA would remain in place and that transmission service would be available from TVA if needed.

In 2005 the Paducah Power System and
Princeton Electric Plant Board formed the Kentucky
Municipal Power Agency under the Kentucky Interlocal
Agreement Act for the joint purpose of buying base load
power from Prairie State Energy Campus in Washington
County Illinois. Through KEMP arrangements to be

completed in 2010, the Princeton Electric Plant Board and Paducah Power System will be able to offer lower rates and increased reliability to our respective communities.

I have personally worked with TVA,

TVPPA over the past year to help develop a contractual solution to our transmission issues. This joint plan makes good business sense for TVA. The plan was initiated by TVA's management, and is broadly supported by distributors. It is consistent with the TVA mission and national policy. It protects and strengthens TVA's financial position, with TVA generating resources tight, any relief from pressures of load growth may well turn out to be economically beneficial to TVA.

Included in the plan is support for a limited two-way fence lowering, which, if adopted by the U.S. Congress, would provide new marketing opportunities for TVA. The '97 contract promised an option for the Princeton Electric Plant Board to leave the TVA system, and we believe the option necessarily includes access to TVA's transmission grid. FERC has already ordered interconnections with East Kentucky Power Cooperative in connection with this commitment to provide power supply service to Warren Rural Electric, another distributor that has exercised its option to

terminate under the TVA contract.

We are working hard to secure the lowest price source of reliable power for our customers. Securing a long-term power supply for Princeton may require the construction of transmission facilities, which, obviously, takes a considerable amount of time. Accordingly, we need to finalize in the very near future our plans for obtaining wholesale power. Therefore, we need assurance from TVA now that transmission access and/or interconnection will be available from TVA in order for the Princeton Electric Plant Board to be able to proceed in an expeditious and timely manner on these other related issues.

In conclusion, it is time for the TVA and the noticing distributors to resolve the transmission issues through execution of a contract that memorializes the arrangement that has been negotiated by TVA, TVPPA, and the noticing distributors. TVA helped Princeton in 1961 develop a public power community, and we are asking you again today for your help in a very different way in a very different environment. Thank you.

MR. SANSOM: Thank you, John. Ray.

MR. MCLENNAN: My name is Ray McLennan,

and I'm chairman of the board of the Electric Plant

Board of the City of Paducah. Chairman Sansom, and members of the TVA board, I'm pleased to be able to discuss with you today the issues facing Paducah Power System and our rate payers. I'm going to give you a little background and summary of how we currently feel and a possible solution to ease those feelings.

The Electric Plant Board of the City of Paducah has been a distributor of TVA power since 1962. Before that time, Paducah was served by Kentucky Utilities Company. The reason we left Kentucky Utilities was high cost wholesale power and the effect that it was having on our customers. It also was having a negative effect on our search for new business located in our area. The people of Paducah voted to condemn and ultimately purchase the assets of KU in Paducah.

They began a partnership with TVA, purchasing all their power needs from TVA. In 1967 the Paducah Power System signed a five plus five contract amendment with TVA. The contract said that if we did not give notice for at least five years, then we could give a five-year notice at that time with no stranded cost charged to leaving the distribution — distributor.

We gave notice to TVA in December of

2004 that we would leave in December of 2009. The problem, we have purchased an interest in a large new coal fired generation plant in southern Illinois. We also need to either purchase or generate additional power supply over that base amount. We need to have assurances that we can obtain reliable delivery of that power at a reasonable cost. We've spent a lot of money on this project and need as firm a commitment from TVA as possible that would expand our options to have transmission access over the TVA reliable system. We also would like to have an interconnection with TVA's grid system.

If Paducah Power becomes the transmission customer of TVA, we will pay TVA to transmit someone else's power to Paducah just as Kentucky Utilities did when they had the right to use TVA's grid that transmits power as the did when they served Paducah and would serve the customers now if we had not joined TVA. That's a very important issue here.

It's not fair to penalize the customers of Paducah because they became a TVA distributor. It would be fair to assume Paducah Power with all the rights and privileges it had before it was parted with TVA when it leaves. Especially considering the fact

that we have lived up to all parts of every contract we've ever had with TVA. Yeah, I'm a little emotional with this.

However, this is not what TVA has offered in the past. Instead, TVA wants to treat the customers of Paducah as second class citizens and make them pay -- and construct transmission lines to other providers because we are not allowed to pay to use the TVA grid or to get power delivered. I ask you, is this fair. Paducah Power System simply wants to direct the CEO to offer transmission and interconnection service to us at just and reasonable rights.

The joint plan that TVA and TVPPA have worked out would be a fair and reasonable approach to this problem. Departure of Paducah Power System only reduces TVA energy sales by less than one-half of one percent in 2010. This is much less than an average growth in your energy sales. It's not going to cause any hardships, you know, TVA experiences in three months.

This is simply not a time for this matter to wind its way through legal or congressional solutions. We have this new board, which I hope has a new vision, to delve TVA into a bright new beginning, not let the history set your boundaries and being free

enough to explore new territory. Don't act like the past, explore the future, change things. That's all I'm asking.

To the board members of TVA who believe the fence should be lowered for the amount of sales lost through the noticing distributors, I say the Paducah Power System will work with others to get congress to allow this to happen as will all noticing distributors in TVPPA under the joint plan.

Just remember that what is leaving is not a large amount of load and transmission interconnect rights and other nonlegislative elements of the plan need to be done first and separate from legislation which take more time. We can't afford to wait that long. Paducah Power cannot wait. Please do what is right and just. I thank you for the opportunity to address you.

MR. SANSOM: Thank you, Ray.

MR. ALLISON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the TVA Board, I'm Jim Allison from the Duck River Electric Membership Cooperative in Shelbyville, Tennessee. And as you may be aware, we're the only non-Kentucky system that has an outstanding contractual notice to TVA. We all have filed written comments. I have copies that I'll give you when I get done with my

statement and we get done with the questions and answers. For obvious reasons, we've had to shorten our verbal comments, but we would encourage you to read them very closely as we do elaborate in greater detail in those.

Duck River Electric, again, is a cooperative. We serve approximately 67,000 members in southern and middle Tennessee. We're governed by an elected 14 member board of directors, several of which are with us in the audience today. With a peak demand of about 400 megawatts, we're one of TVA's 15 largest customers. We followed with great interest TVA's struggle over the last many years with the issue of its debt reduction.

We, as early as 2000, went on record in writing, encouraging the TVA board to increase its rates and reduce its debt while it still had all the distributors around that could contribute to that debt reduction effort. However, TVA did not act on our encouragements at that time. Rather as the magic date of October the 1st, 2002 rolled around, we watched as several other systems within TVA gave notice to TVA, and as a result of those other notices, we started reviewing our options.

We fairly -- we did a very extensive

and thorough review and came to two quick decisions after our study. First off, is that we could replace TVA as a power supplier at that time at prices well below what we were paying TVA.

Secondly, and more importantly, we came to the conclusion that it would be a terrible mistake on our part to sit around and allow other distributors to leave, leaving behind their share of TVA's debt that would increasingly be concentrated in the hands of fewer and fewer distributors, because at some point that would become catastrophic to the systems that would be left.

We, eventually, decided to give notice to TVA in August of 2003. In giving that notice, however, we advised TVA that we were doing it as a defensive measure, to protect our members in the event that TVA did lose a significant amount of load. We indicated to TVA a willingness to work exclusively with TVA at least for the first part of that notice period to try to address what TVA acknowledged were very legitimate concerns on our part. And, again, we offered to work exclusively with TVA.

Rather than reacting favorably to our offer, TVA reacted with a series of steps that we regarded as punitive, in an effort to try to pressure

us into rescinding our notice, by taking away the programs, calling loans due, withholding needed improvements in the transmission system. And, over a period of months, our relationship with TVA, frankly, deteriorated to a very considerable degree because of those steps that we regarded as pressuring.

Eventually, however, they turned around. We found a solution to our transmission issues, and I want to say that we're very appreciative for Mrs. Maureen Dunn for her personal involvement and subsequent to his arrival, Tom Kilgore. Working with these two individuals was a breath of fresh air compared to what we had gone through prior to that, and we're very grateful for their efforts.

And we've continued our discussions, and eventually and recently have most recently concluded that we wanted to extend our notice period with TVA, and as a result have recently signed an agreement that extends our notice period from August 2008 to August 2010. And, again, we're very appreciative of the help that Mr. Kilgore and Mrs. Dunn gave in that respect.

So we will remain a TVA customer through at least August 2010. In all candor, unlike several of the other members of the panel, we have not

made a decision to leave or stay with TVA. We are going to take a very close look at that. In my written comments, I comment on some of the factors that we're going to be looking at, and, again, I would encourage you to look at those.

The transmission access is a crucial issue to us, because unlike several of these other systems, we're located smack dab in the middle of the TVA system. Very bluntly put, without transmission access, our ability to give notice under the contract means nothing, so we followed it very closely.

One of our major concerns is that until very recently, the model that's been advocated by TVA to implement the '97 contract amendments would be catastrophic to those in the middle of the TVA system. If you follow the logic that only the systems that can leave are those systems that give notice and that can build transmission into their system, that means that the system is going to peel away in layers, like an onion peeling away in layers, if you will, from the outside in. That's going to concentrate that debt in the hands of the systems like ours that are located in the middle of the system, and it's our opinion that that model just cannot be allowed to survive.

Again, under the leadership of Tom

1.6

1	Kilgore and Jack Simmons from TVPPA, a new framework
2	has been negotiated. It's supported by TVA management;
3	it's supported by TVPPA; it's supported by these
4	noticing distributors; it's a series of compromises.
5	It doesn't give us all everything we want, but we like
6	the plan. All that's missing is you authorizing and
7	directing your management team to implement it, and we
8	would encourage you in the strongest possible terms to
9	do that. It provides for a measured, controlled rate
10	of departure from the TVA system that will avoid this
formal formal	catastrophic peeling of the onion that's concerned Duck
12	Ríver Electric for so very long.
13	We thank you for the opportunity to be
14	with you today, and our panel is prepared to answer
15	your questions.
16	MR. SANSOM: Thank you all very much.
17	Well, I'll turn to the board and offer an opportunity
18	for questions. I'm going to ask one.
19	John, one of you all referred to the
20	Illinois is that where your option to go is
21	Illinois, is that what you said?
22	MR. MCLENNAN: Prairie State. Peabody
23	Coal is building a plant about 50 miles south east of
24	St. Louis. It's a mine mouth coal plant. I mean, it's
25	a generating plant there, and it's in the process of

1 going forward. 2 MR. SANSOM: I thought the way you said -- so you're not a part owner of that? You don't 3 4 have anything --5 MR. MCLENNAN: We will be a part -- we will be a 60 percent owner of that generating plant, 6 1600 megawatt plant. 7 8 MR. SANSOM: Are there more -- how many 9 owners would be --10 MR. MCLENNAN: There's several entities involved, EMPAS, some other groups. Approximately 60 11 percent of the plant will be owned by public --12 13 MR. SANSOM: People like you. 14 MR. MCLENNAN: Partnered with that and 40 percent will be owned by investor owned utilities or 15 16 Peabody. 17 MR. SANSOM: Okay. 18 MR. HUMPHRIES: It's a consortium of 19 co-ops, municipals, investor owned utilities, 60 percent approximately is public power in Illinois, 20 Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. We have --21 22 Paducah and Princeton are closest physically, 23 geographically to the plant. 24 MR. SANSOM: What about their rates? So they projected all the -- everything it takes and 25

what the rate forecast is I'm assuming?

MR. HUMPHRIES: Paducah and Princeton have both done extensive studies over a period of a number of years to analyze the costs. We continue to monitor the costs. The costs appear to offer a 15 percent savings based on a projected increase of TVA based on what TVA's published. We use TVA's published numbers of increases in the future and at those rates that project looks very good, very promising. It continues to look good financially for both systems, and we continue to pursue it. Of course, the continued increase in rates by TVA, just makes it look better.

MR. SANSOM: What if you -- so if being an owner, part of the issue is that attractive to you, where I'm sure it is, but I'm just kind of interested in is that part of your decision?

MR. HUMPHRIES: It is. It's an equity type of model. After the bonds are paid off, we would have equity in the plant that we could sell or if we wanted to -- but we would continue to operate it as an owner, and that would be attractive, that is more attractive than -- it's kind of like a house. You can buy a house or rent a house. It's cheaper in the long run to buy a house. By the same token, it's cheaper to buy a plant than it is to rent a plant.

7 MR. SANSOM: How do you invest the capital? Do you sign on as the supporter of the debt, 2 if you will, or do you actually have to have capital on 3 4 it? 5 MR. MCLENNAN: No. We would finance a certain percentage of the debt ourself, but a good 6 portion of it would be taxes and bonds, some it would 7 not, but -- that would actually -- we would -- hold that 60 percent of the plant we would hold on debt 9 ourself. KEMPA would, the organization that we formed 10 between Princeton and Paducah, would own that 11 12 percentage debt. 13 MR. SANSOM: And so your entity would sign on to supporting a piece of that debt? 14 15 MR. MCLENNAN: That's correct. 16 MR. SANSOM: Okay. 17 MR. HUMPHRIES: KMPA would have the debt and the equity and we would sign an agreement with 18 KMPA to buy the power. That would better use -- the 19 revenue would be used to retire the debt and that's 20 21 a -- each entity, each participating entity, would use their own financing mechanisms and every one has a 22 23 different way to do it. 24 MR. SANSOM: What would be your time commitment? If you go in, you're an equity owner, what 25

1	would your board have to commit to time on that one? I
2	mean, you had a five and five with TVA. What would you
3	have to commit to them to do you know that yet?
4	MR. HUMPHRIES: We own it forever
5	unless we sell it.
6	MR. SANSOM: No. I'm talking about
7	your buying from that entity? I understand you're
8	going to own it.
9	MR. HUMPHRIES: I'm not I guess I
10	don't
7 7	MR. BOTTORFF: Do you have a price
12	contract for a supply of power?
13	MR. SANSOM: And do you have a term and
14	a price contract? You answered that you don't have
15	price yet.
16	MR. HUMPHRIES: Well, the way this
17	project is set up, it's you own the plant, you own
18	the mine, so your fuel and your capital are fixed. The
19	variable costs is the labor to get the coal from the
20	mine to the plant, which is very small, since it's a
21	mine mouth plant.
22	MR. MCLENNAN: In the engineer's
23	estimate, there's 30 years worth of coal in that plant
24	to supply your generation, while you have your 30 years
25	worth of debt to pay them.

4	
1	MR. SANSOM: But even though you're an
2	equity owner, you still have to have a separate
3	agreement that I'm a buyer of that power, right?
4	MR. MCLENNAN: Well, as far as you
5	we would have the right to distribute that power, 60
6	percent of the power out of that plant any way we felt
7	like, but we would sign with KMPA an agreement that we
8	would buy all the power that KMPA has coming from
9	there. That's the underlying power that helps to
10	finance the bonds.
11	MR. SANSOM: Okay, I understand.
12	BOARD MEMBER: And the length of that
13	contract.
14	MR. HUMPHRIES: The length of the
15	bonds. It's the length of the bond is 30 years.
16	MR. MCLENNAN: So it's a 30-year
17	contract.
18	MR. HUMPHRIES: And then after the
19	bonds are paid off, we still have the equity.
20	MR. BAXTER: So it's a 30-year
21	contract, but you don't know what the price of the
22	power will be?
23	MR. MCLENNAN: Like you, you don't know
24	what your power is going to be tomorrow, because the
25	cost is going up. At least in our case, we know how

much the bonds are going to cost. We'll know how much the coal is going to cost. We've already paid for it.

The only variable we have will be labor costs of mining the mine, labor costs and administrative costs of running the generations, so our variable expenses will be less than what you may have in some of your plants unless you all have -- unless you already have a contract for the coal.

MR. BAXTER: Do you have a know price to start with?

MR. MCLENNAN: It's hard to say right now, because we can't get it firmed down yet until -the EAD board has had for about four months now our appeal of our air permit. Until they actually issue the air permit, it would be hard time for us to go out and get a construction contract and get the vendor to sign down for exactly what they can build the plant for.

MR. BAXTER: So the plant --

MR. MCLENNAN: We can give you some ballparks. We feel like our bus bar cost on here is going to be around 14 cents a megawatt at the plant for what it's going to cost to operate that. We know how much our bonding will be approximately. There, again, we don't know when we're going to go to market to buy

the bonds, what the rate is going to be, you know, on 1 2 that for sure, but we can say generally what's it's going to estimate for kilowatt hour added to that. But 3 our combined costs of the 80 percent of the power will 4 be significantly lower, and that -- we have to fill 5 that in with intermediate power and peaking power. 6 7 MR. BAXTER: And would that plant 8 supply all of your power? 9 MR. MCLENNAN: About 80 percent is what 10 the maximum --11 MR. BAXTER: 80 percent. 12 MR. MCLENNAN: We don't want it to supply a hundred percent of our power because that 13 wouldn't be cost efficient. So we're shooting for 80 14 percent because that's the one that our consultants 15 tell us is the most efficient thing to do, and then we 16 would fill that in with some intermediate power and 17 some peaking power to have it there when the immediate 18 19 power is too expensive. 20 MR. DEPRIEST: Would this be an 21 underground or a surface mine? 22 MR. MCLENNAN: This is an underground mine. It's a high sulfur underground mine, but it's 23 going to be critical boiler and the pollution things 24

that are in place to make it one of the most efficient

high sulfur plants that we've built so far.

MR. SANSOM: Ray, we've got a deal for you. We've got some mineral rights up there we'll sell you.

MR. MCLENNAN: Down in the future, we'll see what happens.

MS. WILLIAMS: We've all talked a lot about the rates. Are you concerned about your reliability going outside of the TVA area? I mean reliability is one of -- is certainly TVA's -- probably the best in the world, certainly part of the best in the country, and I'm curious that you've all talked about rates, but...

MR. MCLENNAN: We're going to have to rely on MISO's reliability, because that's what we'll be part of MISO's and the reliability of transmission and everything coming out of MISO. That's why we would like to remain connected with TVA's grid as everybody that touches us. We don't touch another TVA distributor. We're totally surrounded by Jackson Purchase, which buys it's power from Big Rivers, which does have an agreement with TVA, is interconnected with TVA, and does transfer into some of their power casing over TVA's grid. That's everybody that surrounds us.

So, yes, it would help us to have the

reliability of TVA's grid when interconnect and, of course, if there ever was a chance where "we're using your electronics," then there would be a cost charge that we would pay for it as is normal.

MS. WILLIAMS: And you said, I heard you say, I think you said, you're willing to pay just and reasonable rates, and I guess I'm curious about what that is. I mean, is that the bottom line?

MR. MCLENNAN: What everybody else is paying now. What Jackson — what Big Rivers is paying you know for transmission of power, what LUKG&E is paying if they transmit your power. We don't want to pay any less or any more than what they're paying. We just want to fall in line with them. Nondiscriminatory rates. Yes, Yes.

MR. HUMPHRIES: We've addressed reliability in two ways. Right now we have one transmission line from TVA to town. And when we're finished, assuming TVA would leave that line in place, we would have two transmission lines to town.

Typically, two is better than one.

In addition, we will have peaking generation inside the city limits in case either or both transmission lines were to go out of service, we would be able to serve a portion of our load. We

believe with that model, we've addressed our reliability and it would be as good or better.

MR. DUNCAN: Mr. Hayes, in your testimony, you talked about building equity and the decision that will affect the future as part of your core decision making process. I'd like for you to talk a little bit more about that and is there anything that TVA could have done to have made you feel more a part of your future?

MR. HAYES: From day one, let me share with the whole board, that I and Warren have cast no stones toward TVA. TVA has been an excellent provider and with the situations of rate disparity in the state of Kentucky and as much as 40 percent, we as a management team and board had to search out other opportunities to serve our membership. I feel that that's part of my obligation as president. To have derogatory remarks toward TVA, I will not do that.

MR. DUNCAN: It's not derogatory.

It's helping us understand. Rate is part of your decision, but another part is controlling your future, and you're going to get that by being on the board of East Kentucky, and you're going to get that by having more of a say.

What kinds of things could we look in

the future to help make distributors feel more a part of the process?

MR. HAYES: Four years ago, I tried very hard to negotiate a partial requirements contract with the TVA staff and board and it looked prosperous, but it fell through a few weeks later for reasons, I assume, that TVA staff would have to answer.

MR. DUNCAN: So choice is one of the things that you're -- choice is what you're interested in?

MR. HAYES: Yes.

MR. ALLISON: You'll find in my written remarks and some comments as we go through the decision making process that are very much related to that. One of the things we will be looking at in evaluating alternatives is an opportunity to be an equity owner, to be a buyer as opposed to a renter, to have true voice in decisions about generation capacity and other things of that nature.

And along those lines, I'd hasten to say, that there are some very promising discussions that have gone on, again, under the leadership of Tom Kilgore that may give us those kind of opportunities with TVA. I assume that's the gist of your questioning, because we're very excited about those,

and as we compare options in the future, we want to be 1 in a position of including TVA in the potential 2 suppliers that we would look at and having the 3 opportunities for those kinds of choices would be a big 4 plus as far as we're concerned. 5 6 MR. DUNCAN: No one likes to lose a customer in business and if you do, you try to figure 7 out why so that you can do better in the future, and 8 that's the tenor of my question. And maybe I should 9 lead into, what is your view -- we're going to have 10 another panel that will talk about the TVPPA plan. 11 From your standpoint, are there any conditions 12 precedent that would keep the TVA -- TVPPA plan from 13 working? Are there any conditions from notice 14 15 providers that are critical for it to work? 16 MR. HAYES: Are you speaking to me, 17 sir? 18 MR. DUNCAN: Or the entire panel, particularly you, I think you mentioned it, Mr. Hayes. 19 20 MR. HAYES: No, sir. I have no problem 21 with the plan. 22 MR. ALLISON: We support it a hundred percent. Again, it didn't give us everything we would 23 like to see. It's a series of compromises, that's the 24

nature of making a deal. One of the things in our case

that it will force us to do is get off the fence.

We're going to have to make a decision in 180 days under the plan. We would like to have a year. We would have like to have two years. Our approach is we just want to keep all of our options open.

Again, our big concern is what's going to happen is as people start leaving and that TVA debt still hasn't been paid. We'd like to have as long as possible, but we think it's a reasonable requirement, and we're prepared to make that decision, and we support — and you have in your packet, we'll give you a joint statement from all six of us. We all support the negotiated plan 100 percent.

MR. BOTTORFF: So what are the aspects of the plan that you would like to have that you didn't get? So tell us what the ideal thing would be.

MR. BOTTORFF: What the --

MR. ALLISON: I would like to have longer than 180 days for us to decide. Again, we're going to have to go through a formal process, and I would like to have a year as a minimum, but we would like to have that.

You'll find in the plan that anybody that gives notice in the future as well as those of us that have given notice, once beyond that

reconsideration period that you forfeit all of your opportunity to come back to the TVA heritage assets.

That's a serious decision you need to evaluate.

In the past, TVA has offered the opportunities for distributors to give notice and then come back without penalty. That would entail a potential penalty if you went beyond that period of time and then decided that you wanted to become a TVA customer.

Another piece of the plan that I would like to have had personally is if you are one of the existing noticed distributors, that -- it's an all or nothing decision for you, you either have to leave with all your load. Now, for future TVA customers that give notice, it would be partial requirements. I personally would have liked to have had a partial requirements opportunity.

There is another piece in the plan that would allow us to perhaps strike a deal with TVA separate and apart from our current arrangement. But, again, I'm not complaining about the plan. I want to underscore that. It is a series of compromises, and we support it as written, because it didn't give TVA everything they wanted. It didn't give us everything we wanted. It did not give all the noticing

distributors or the systems that haven't given notice everything they wanted. It's a series of compromises that we all found a way to support, and we're behind it a hundred percent, and I speak for all of those noticing distributors in saying that.

MR. SANSOM: Anybody else on the panel? I think we're -- Jim, in particular, I think you're saying pretty strongly that our interest has got to be that the onion didn't peel too fast, and we can work this thing through over time. I think it's -- obviously, we're new, but we've got an obligation to TVA to be sure and protect what you referred to as the existing distributors in that rate structure, and so I -- so that's, I know, our challenge we've got to help figure that out.

We appreciate you all making these comments, and we understand your position but, Gerald, I want to ask you on the Eastern Kentucky thing that's not an ownership issue for you at all, right?

MR. HAYES: Yes, sir.

MR. SANSOM: Oh, it is.

MR. HAYES: We will become an owner.

Now, the Kentucky Public Service Commission and the state of Kentucky will not allow East Kentucky Power to subsidize Warren in its membership. There are 16

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1	distribution cooperatives that own East Kentucky power
2	as we speak. Warren RECC will become a member owner,
3	but we will be set aside, and there will be a 278
4	megawatt base load generating unit built for Warren's
5	base load, two 100 megawatt combustion turbines for
6	intermediate and peaking demands, and we will have a
7	base rate, and there will be an adder that we will pay
8	for that capital investment for the generation and
9	transmission access that will be put in place to serve
10	Warren.
11	Now and we had to sign we were
12	required to sign the length of a contract for the term
13	of the debt for that capital investment, so we will be
14	a fully vested member with the equal voting rights.
15	MR. SANSOM: And that plant, what kind
16	of capital is that? What will that plant cost?
17	MR. HAYES: Half a billion dollars.
18	MR. SANSOM: Okay. And then the so
19	the transmission issue from that plant to you, that's
20	part of this discussion or
21	MR. HAYES: Yes.
22 '	MR. SANSOM: And is there a line
23	planned then from it to you?
: 4	MR. HAYES: There is a complete plan
:5	from the east to our service area and from Big Rivers

over -- the EB Wilson plant with Big Rivers that would come into our service territory also, that will consist of 97 miles of high-voltage transmission. MR. SANSOM: If TVA dropped off your radar screen, are you okay with the reliability from --I'm not saying -- I'm just asking this question. What is your reliability comfort if TVA isn't a backup for you? MR. HAYES: I would have a certain degree of dismay, because I have an operations 

MR. HAYES: I would have a certain degree of dismay, because I have an operations background and the more sources of power supply that you have, the better off you are, and with two more brand new high-voltage lines coming into that area, there will be significant, positive impact for not only Warren, but the flow of electricity from east to west and even some potential back up for TVA if we maintain total integration and interconnection with both grids.

MR. SANSOM: The price of backup, the price of reliability, is that determinate in this industry already? In other words, is it?

MR. HAYES: No, sir. There are interconnection agreements all over the United States, and there has been discussion of loop flow tariff, but if that did come about, I think that -- I really feel that that would open Pandora's box all throughout the

nation, because of the total integration of the high-voltage grid that exists.

MR. BOTTORFF: So reliability is not a separate priced function? People don't just buy — they don't buy backup. People don't just buy backup for reliability in this business. You got a primary source and that source may not be able to supply all your needs and at some point in time you may have to go some place else. Is there any — there is no standard method for just buying back up?

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$  HAYES: Not to my knowledge, but I'm a distribution manager.

MR. ALLISON: Can I comment on the reliability area? It's really got two different functions or two different pieces. You've got to have generation and all of us, as we've talked to potential generation suppliers, you heard John talk about having peaking in the city. We're putting together portfolios of generation that will have reliability built into them for the generation. We're not doing one plant and if it don't run, we don't have anything.

We're building up redundancies in the different alternatives that we're looking at generation. Beyond that, the reliability component is largely driven by the transmission system and the

delivery system and the transmission access issue goes
to the very heart of that. TVA opens its system and
allows people to have transmission access. We're
prepared to pay TVA for the transmission function and
that will include reliability components for backup
systems and the transmission system for redundancy in
it.

It would represent -- and you've got your staff here today, but somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 percent of what you're charging us for wholesale power is related to your transmission costs. So we're prepared to continue buying that from TVA regardless of who we buy power from in the future and, again, as a system that's in the middle of the TVA area, we take delivery from TVA at 23 different delivery points.

right in Shelbyville, it wouldn't do us any good without having transmission access. We still need the system. We feel like we're entitled to it. We've helped pay for it for the last 60 years, and we feel like we're entitled to it, and we're willing to continue to pay a fair share, that just and reasonable nondiscriminatory rate for that in the event we decide to leave. And if we decide to stay with TVA, it would

be imbedded in the rates that we pay you, so we're prepared to pay for that reliability on an ongoing basis.

MR. BOTTORFF: Just one thing, Mr. Chairman, I'm just learning about all this, but one thing I know is we're supposed to be at TVA sort of the most reliable, lowest cost provider, and that's part of the mission, not necessarily the lowest cost, but certainly the competitive costs. It bothers me to think that we've got somebody that can buy power cheaper than we can.

And, Tom, I hope you will get out here and find out, because we want part of this cheap power, that's all I got to say.

MS. HARRIS: Well, I want to follow up on one thing here and clarify. There is an issue of reliability, but -- and I don't want to confuse that with the issue of provider of last resort. So can you -- and how much that provider of last resort can charge. I mean, are we -- are you using reliability and that provider of last resort interchangeably?

MR. ALLISON: I, personally, am not.

In the event we decide to go and buy power from

somewhere else, we would be in the position of having

to pay whatever the cost may be for the provision of

our power. Take, for example, if we put together a portfolio of generation that might include some of the Peabody units, we might include something from East Kentucky power, and all of the contingencies happen in that fall apart, we're going to be on the hook to go to the spot market if it's available to buy the power to do that, and if we're not, we would have to share in the transmission interruption just like everybody else would.

There are rules that are followed, you know, NERC rules and SERC rules, and things of that nature about how you interrupt that, but we certainly would be in a position of sharing our portion of the burden of that for what we caused.

MS. HARRIS: But I just want to make sure that everybody else has the same understanding when we talk about reliability. Gerald?

MR. HAYES: Yes, ma'am.

MS. HARRIS: So you agree that there's provider of last resort and how that's charged, how you're charged for that versus just transmission reliability.

MR. HAYES: Yes, ma'am. And I do feel that the relationship of interchange agreements between East Kentucky Power and TVA can be good for each other.

I do know that last month, a tornado took out two towers in the Summershade line that belongs to TVA, and East Kentucky Power has interchange agreements with TVA on that line, and East Kentucky Power was a resource for TVA during that crisis, so I do feel that both parties can — could be good for each other.

MR. DEPRIEST: Gerald, is your decision irrevocable? Are you committed so much that you can't come back to TVA?

MR. HAYES: Yes, sir.

MR. HUMPHRIES: On the back up, I wanted to make one comment to maybe clarify and to the questions, we believe TVA will need peaking generation in the future. We are installing peaking generation inside our city, which it's not big, I know, but every little bit helps. That line can be used two ways, not just to provide us backup in case it were come to be needed. It can be used for us to sell TVA power, and we're very open to that and willing to work out any sort of arrangements beneficial to both parties. So I think when you think of a line, you have to think of it as a two-way line instead of just the way it has been for 40 years, one-way line.

MR. THRAILKILL: Mr. Allison, you mentioned your support of the compromised plan worked

out in draft form with TVPPA. If something of that structure or something similar to it were enacted, how would that alter your business decisions?

MR. ALLISON: It would accelerate our need to make a decision. As I mentioned earlier, I would like to have a year. The plan calls for 180 days. As I understand it, TVA will probably want to have a little less than that, at least TVA management. But it was a compromise. But it will accelerate our need to make a decision. One of the reasons we agreed to the two-year extension with TVA is that we had been following the long-term contract discussions, and I don't know if you're familiar with that, but TVA and TVPPA had been having those, and they got stalled for a variety of reasons.

We would very much like to have the opportunity to see those evolve to certainty before we're put in the position of having to decide to fish or cut bait.

Whether 180 days will afford that opportunity or not, remains to be seen. But I think it's a reasonable requirement to ask us to make that decision fairly forthright once the transmission access issue is disposed of with finality and that would be when the clock would start ticking. But it would accelerate us

to make the decision one way or the other is the primary impact.

MR. SANSOM: Let me thank you all for participating in this panel. We've heard a lot about this, and I think you've helped us a lot. We respect your problem when power is cheaper somewhere else, and especially, when you're surrounded by those people that are serving — buying from somebody else. We understand that. We have a responsibility sitting on this board for TVA, and we've got to be sure we understand and carry out that responsibility.

We, again, appreciate you all coming and trying to help us understand this issue, and we'll work on it. Thank you very much. Tom.

MR. KILGORE: Thank you, gentlemen. If I could ask you to step down and ask our second panel to step up.

MR. DUNCAN: Mr. Kilgore, could I ask that the written remarks be made part of the record and they be distributed to each member of the committee.

MR. KILGORE: The written remarks will be made a part of that. And let me also say, Director Duncan, on that score that the record will remain open for about seven days, so anybody that wasn't invited to testify here that wants to submit comments, can do so.

We'll put them in the record and post them to our web site, so any written comments, these and others can be made part of the record. Okay.

Gentlemen, if we could have our second panel. As these folks are being seated, I would like to introduce them, and then we'll hear from them as we did the first panel. They also represent four of the distributors in the Tennessee Valley region. They are Harold DePriest, president and CEO of the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga. Eston Glover, manager of Pennyrile Rural Electric Cooperation here in Kentucky, and Eston is keeping the lights on for us here today. I think he would tell you a little humorously he's got something tied together, and he told them not to risk untying it until the meeting is over. He may remark about that.

Fred Hayslett, who is general manager of Columbus Light and Water Department in Mississippi, and George Kitchens the general manager of Joe Wheeler Electric Membership Corporation in Alabama.

Panel members, I will remind you the yellow light will remind you when you have two minutes left. The red light will come on when you're out of time. We're not going to jerk you off. I think the first one worked well, so it's really for your benefit